GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:539
ANSWERED ON:27.07.2005
PRODUCTION OF THERMAL COAL
Oram Shri Jual

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the annual production of Thermal Coal in the country and particularly in Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd. during each of the last three years;

(b) whether the Government is also importing Thermal Coal;

(c) if so, the total quantum of Thermal Coal imported during the above period;

(d) whether the Government has a proposal to increase the import of Thermal Coal; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. PASARI NARAYANA RAO)

(a): Production of Thermal Coal in the country and in Mahanadi Coalfields Limited(MCL) during each of the last three years is given below:-

(figures in million tonne)

Year	All India coal production	MCL
2002-03	311.077	52.229
2003-04	331.755	60.049
2004-05 (provisional)	352.794	66.080

(b): Ministry of Coal is not importing coal. However, since import of coal is under Open General Licence (OGL) any consumer can import coal as per their requirement. The total quantity of coal imported by the consumers during the last three years is given below:-

(figures in million tonnes)

Year	Non coking coal
2002-03	10.313
2003-04	8.691
2004-05 (provisional)	10.465

(d)&(e): Due to gap in demand and supply, Ministry of Power has planned to import 13.45 million tonnes (Provisional) during 2005-06 for building coal stocks at power stations and to meet power generation needs.